



03500.017853

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
:)
KEIICHIRO ISHIHARA)
:)
Application No.: 10/763,231)
:)
Filed: January 26, 2004)
:)
For: MULTI-BEAM SCANNING)
APPARATUS : March 8, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. In accordance with the Deputy Commissioner's pre-OG notice of July 11, 2003, copies of U.S. patents and/or applications are not provided.

U.S. Patent 6,185,029
U.S. Patent 6,665,103
U.S. Patent 6,683,707
U.S. Patent 6,700,596
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0001944
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0025784
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0048352
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0053185
U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0063360

Applicant also respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the following co-pending applications which have been assigned in common with the present application.

Copies of these co-pending applications are also enclosed

(1) U.S. Application No. 10/631,781, filed August 1, 2003 by Manabu Kato, et al. (Atty. Docket No. 03500.017466); and

(2) U.S. Application No. 10/633,521, filed August 5, 2003 by Keiichiro Ishihara, et al. (Atty. Docket No. 00684.003510).

It is Applicant's belief that Japanese priority applications for some of the above U.S. applications may have been published before the filing date of the subject application, making the Japanese publications themselves available as prior art under at least § 102(a).

Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to
our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 03500.017853		APPLICATION NO. 10/763,231	
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT Keiichiro Ishihara			
		FILING DATE January 26, 2004		GROUP Unknown	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,185,029	2/6/01	Ishihara	359	216	
		6,665,103	12/16/03	Ishihara	359	205	
		6,683,707	1/27/04	Ishihara, et al	359	205	
		6,700,596	3/2/04	Ishihara	347	134	
		2003/1944	1/2/03	Yoshida, et al	347	241	
		2003/25784	2/6/03	Sato, et al	347	244	
		2003/48352	3/13/03	Kato, et al	347	258	
		2003/53185	3/20/03	Shimomura, at al	359	197	
		2003/63360	4/3/03	Ishihara	359	212	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of form with next communication to applicant.